OUR MAGAZINE IS ONE YEAR OLD!

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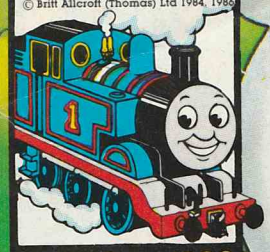


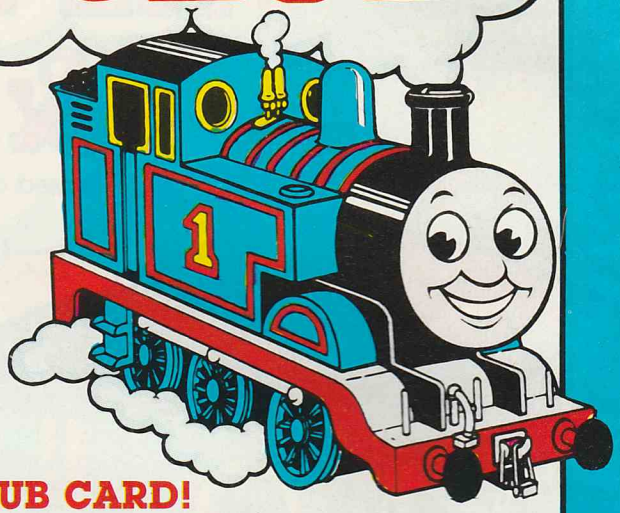
29th Oct. 1988
No. 27 38p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

SPLENDID COMPETITION INSIDE!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!



Peep! Peep! Edward is rather an old engine, although he is still Really Useful. In this issue he goes to the works to be mended. Peep! Peep!

CALLING CLUB MEMBERS!

Christmas may seem a long way away, but we'd like you to send in some Christmas drawings now, so that we can publish the best in our splendid Christmas issue! Can you draw your favourite engine on Christmas day? Send your drawings to: *Christmas Drawings, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Drawings must reach us by Wednesday, 2nd November 1988.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and are moving, please send your new address to the Fat Controller at his address on the letters page.

COLLECTED STORIES!

A very splendid, special edition of favourite old **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** stories and puzzles is in the shops now, priced **99p**. There are 32 full colour pages full of fun and your friendly engine friends. **Don't miss it!**

PICTURES OF YOU!

Turn to page 18 to see some of our Club members – pictures **you** sent in of **yourselves** for the Fat Controller. And very splendid they are too. The Fat Controller was **most** impressed!

CLUB CARD!

If you'd like a Thomas Club membership card with your very own membership number, just collect **3 tokens** like the one below. Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** token, together with a stamped, addressed envelope (15cm X 10cm) to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

EVERY ISSUE!

Have every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** sent straight to your home by taking out a subscription! You will automatically become a member of the Thomas Club and be sent a special **Thomas Pack**! Details on page **18!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

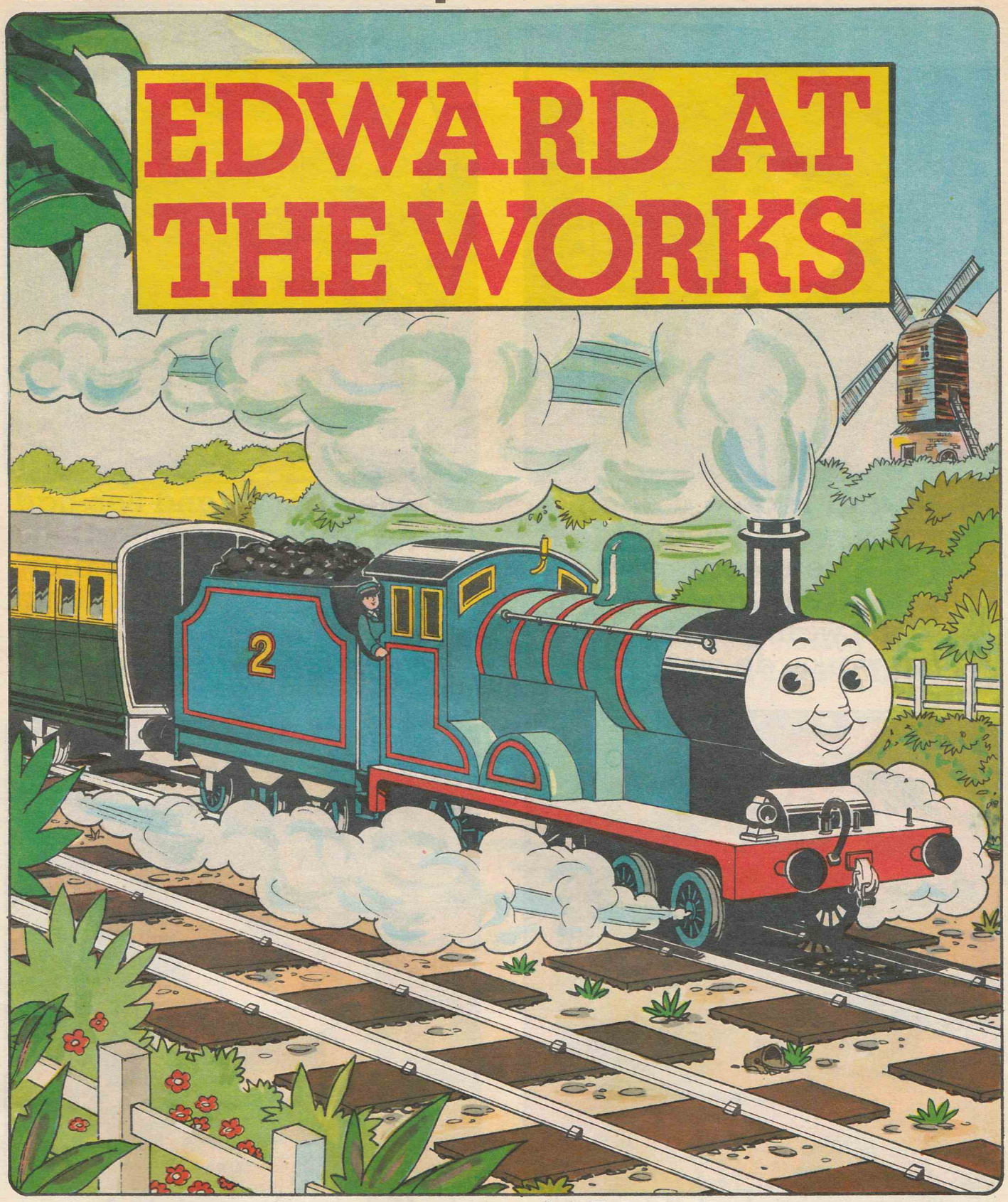
Our **Thomas the Tank Engine magazine** is one year old! Hooray! Hooray! There is a splendid party on our mural page and **you** are invited!

In our next issue: James and the fireworks!

THOMAS TOKEN

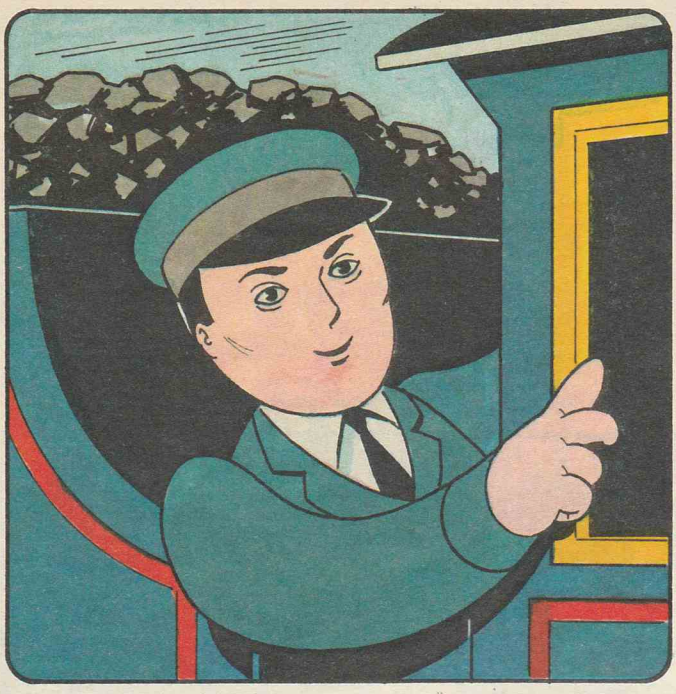
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by MARVEL COMICS LTD. a New World Entertainment Company. 13/15 Arundel Street. London WC2R 3ED. ALL THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited 1988 copyright © Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited 1988. All rights reserved. No similarity between any names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in England. Distributed by Comag.

A listen and look story!

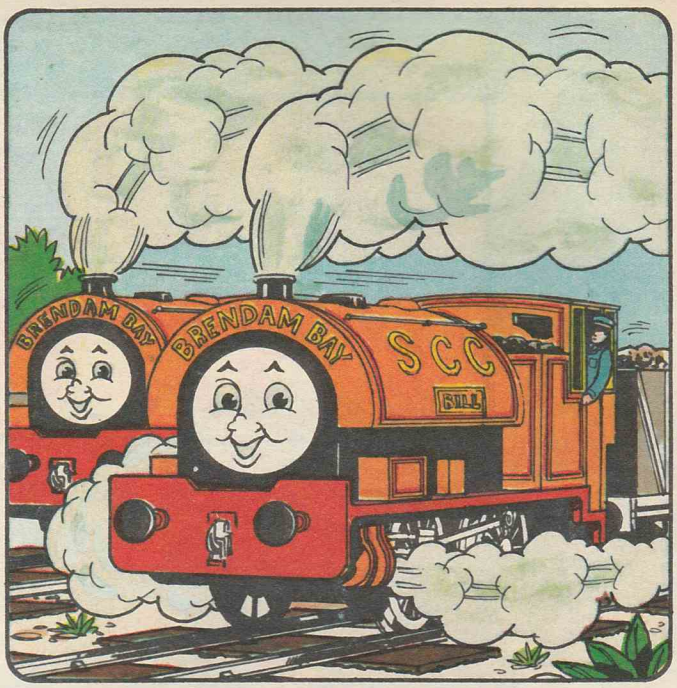


1. Edward is a happy engine. He loves the Island of Sodor but especially his branch line and his station. He is always at his happiest when he is working hard.

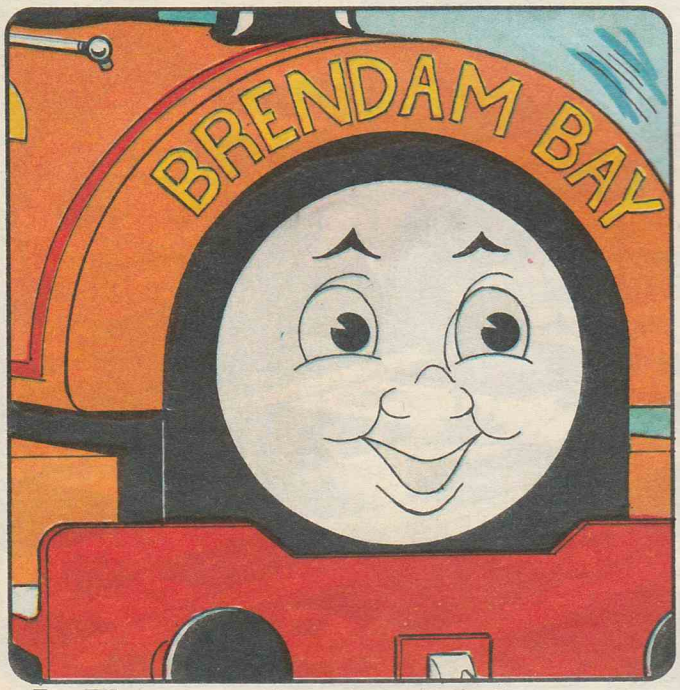
2. Edward will often pull several passenger trains and a couple of goods trains in a day. If he has time, he will help other engines with their work.



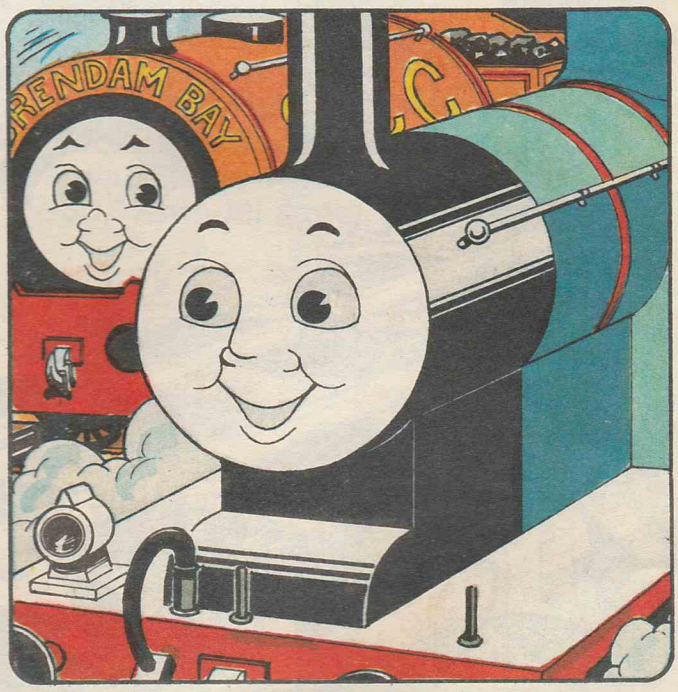
3. Edward is an old engine, however, and he does get tired. "Take it easy," says his driver. "Haste makes waste. We don't want you to end up at the works, do we?"



4. One day, Bill and Ben had been very silly up at the quarry. They had been playing about instead of doing their work, and now they were behind schedule.

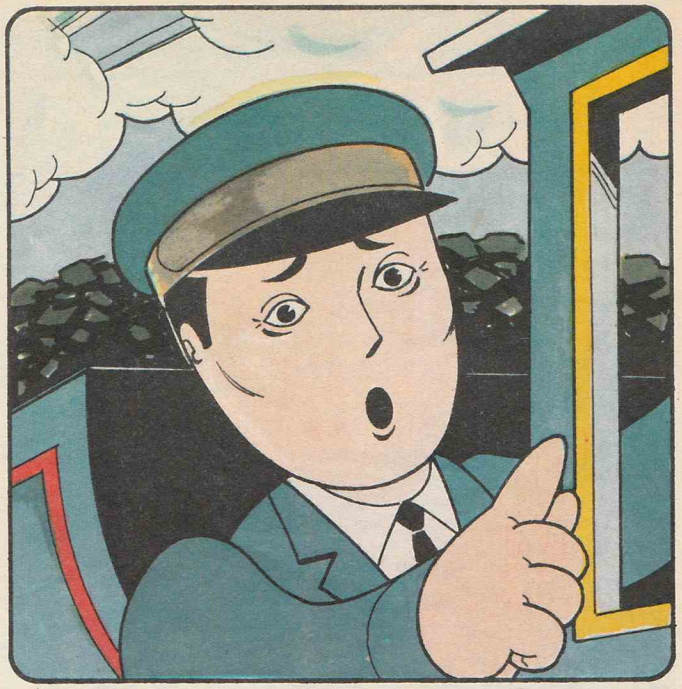


5. They arrived at Edward's station. "Please, Edward," said Bill. "Would you take our trucks to the harbour?" "We're late," said Ben, "and we've still more to bring."

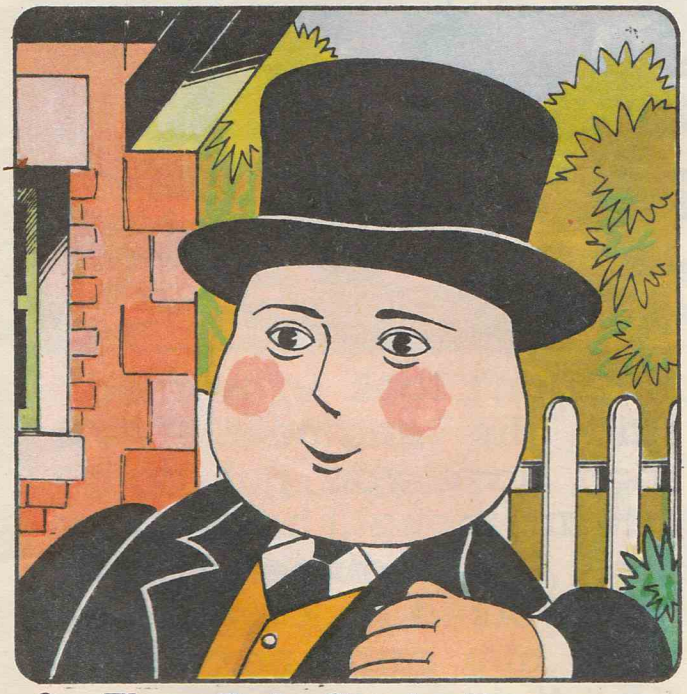


6. "I'd be happy to," said Edward. "My next train's not until six, so I should have plenty of time." "Thank you, thank you," said Bill and Ben and off they went.

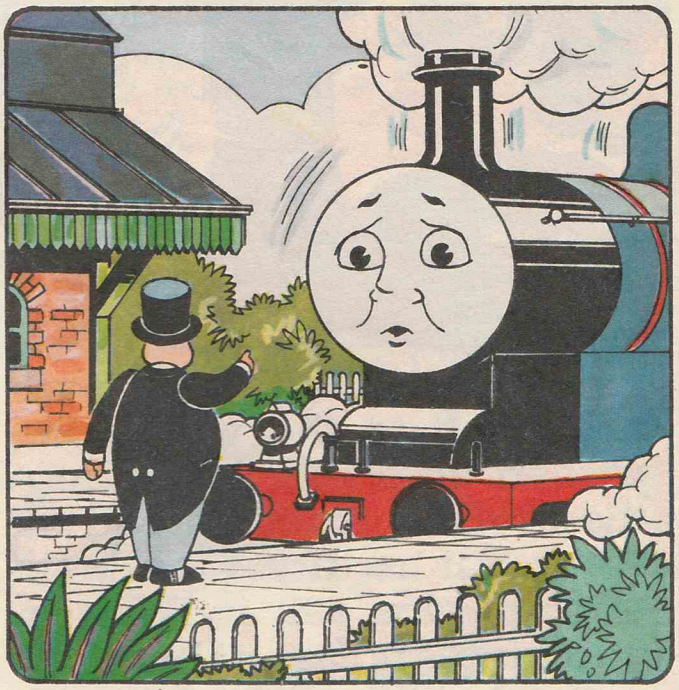
7. There were a lot of trucks and Edward had to make two journeys to the harbour. Edward didn't mind the heavy work, but on the way back something happened.



8. Edward started to make a clanking noise as he puffed along the line. "Oh dear," said his driver. "Sounds like your axlebox." They puffed on to Edward's station.



9. The Fat Controller was standing on the platform. "You don't sound very well, Edward," he said. "You've been working very hard. I think you need a rest."



10. "Yes, sir," said Edward. "But what about my branch line?" "Percy will have to look after it," said the Fat Controller. "I'm sending you to the works for a service."

11. Edward felt very sad going off to the works. He wished he could be pulling the evening train instead of Percy. But he didn't feel well and he was still making a clanking noise. When he arrived at the works, Edward saw broken-down engines and old engines ready for scrap. He began to worry. "Oh dear, what if I can't be repaired?"

12. "Don't look so worried," said the engineer. "We'll soon have you put right." Edward thought he was very nice. The engineer worked and worked on Edward. He gave him some new parts. He tightened this and adjusted that, until Edward felt like a new engine! "Going to the works is not so bad after all!" thought Edward.

Turn to page 13 and find out what happened next!

COMPETITION!

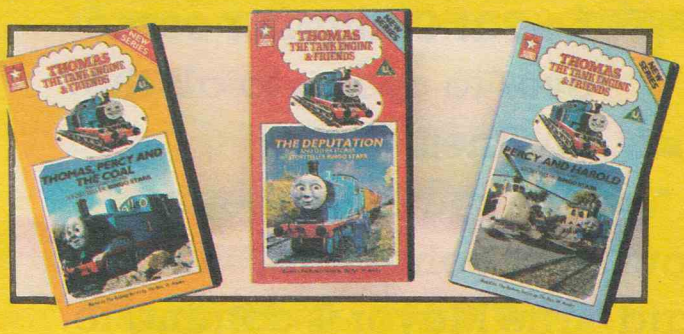
Here's a chance to win a splendid prize!

FIRST PRIZE

There are **5 first prizes** of complete **Thomas audio cassette story sets from the Pickwick Group plc!** Each set contains **14** Thomas story books and **14** tapes!

SECOND PRIZE

There are **5 second prizes of Thomas video sets** – each set contains **3** delightful videos!



RUNNERS UP

10 runners up will receive one **audio cassette story** and one **video!**

How to Enter

Look carefully at the picture below. How many little birds can you see? Put a ring round each one! Then just fill in the form, cut along the dotted line and send your entry to: **Thomas's Spot the Bird Competition, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

The first correct entries picked out from our postbag will win!

Name.....

.....

Age..... **Address**.....

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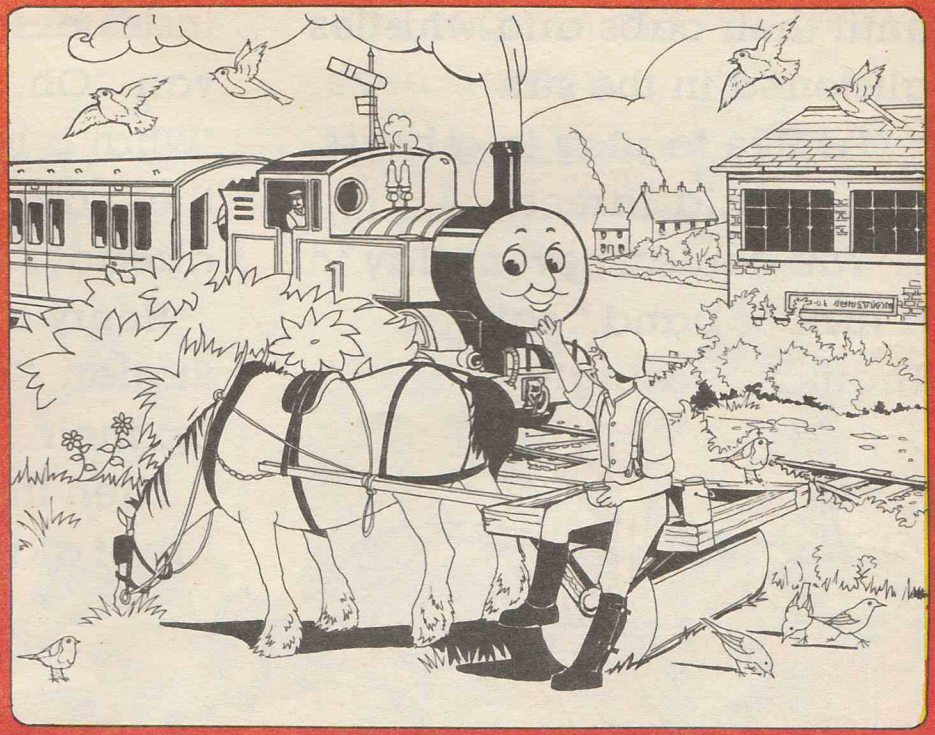
My favourite part of the Thomas the Tank Engine magazine is ...

.....

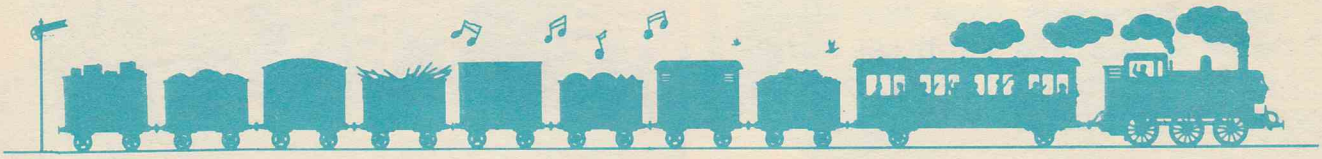


Rules: No employee of Marvel Comics Ltd, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd or Pickwick Group plc may enter this competition. The editor's decision if final and no correspondence will be entered into.

NO ABC? Do not worry – the letter **Z will appear in our next issue!**

A read-aloud story!

The Brass Band



The Fat Controller came over to speak to all the engines.

"I want you all to be on your best behaviour," he said. "The Mayor is coming to pay a visit to our station. And we shall have a brass band here to welcome him."

The engines were all given a good clean and polish, until their cabs and whistles glistened in the sun.

"I'd like to play in a brass band," said James.

"You couldn't even play in a rubber band," said Thomas, teasingly.

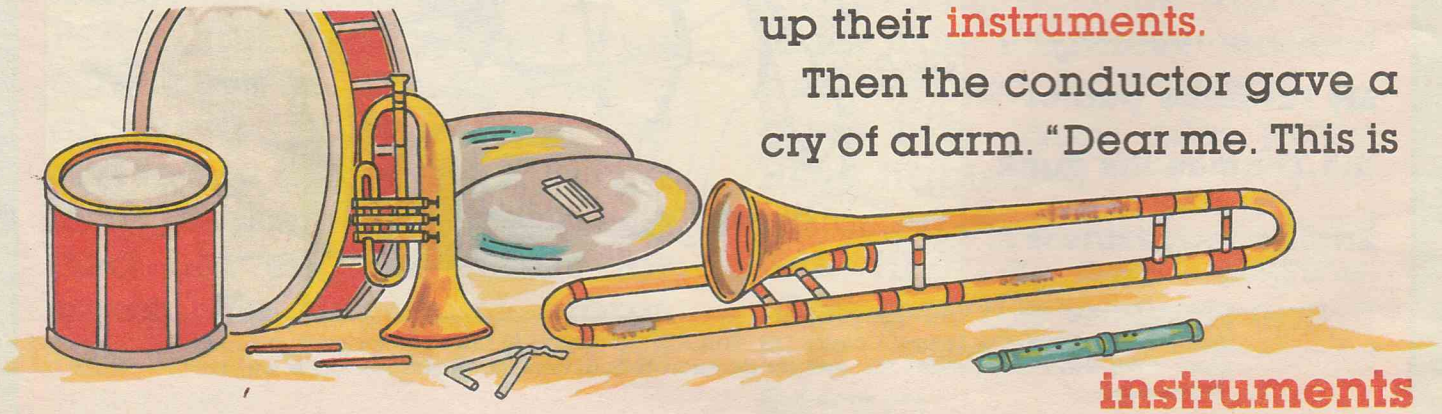
Henry was given the job of collecting the band members. They were waiting for him at the harbour station.

"I hope you're a strong engine," laughed the band conductor. "We have a lot of instruments for you to carry."

Henry watched as the guard loaded the cases of instruments into the guard's van. "Oh, my," said Henry. "What a lot of instruments there are. I feel tired already."

Henry arrived back at the Station. The band quickly set up their instruments.

Then the conductor gave a cry of alarm. "Dear me. This is



instruments

a disaster. In our hurry to get here, we've left all our wind instruments behind. Now we have no saxophones, flutes or penny whistles to play. Our music won't sound the same without them."

"And the Mayor will be here at any moment," said Henry's driver.

The Fat Controller came over to see what all the fuss was about. "My goodness. Not to worry," he said. "My engines will do the whistling for you."

All the engines were moved outside the engine shed. The fireman stoked up their fires.

"I'm going to be in a brass band, after all," said James.

Gordon wasn't so pleased. "I am an engine, not a musical instrument," he grumbled.

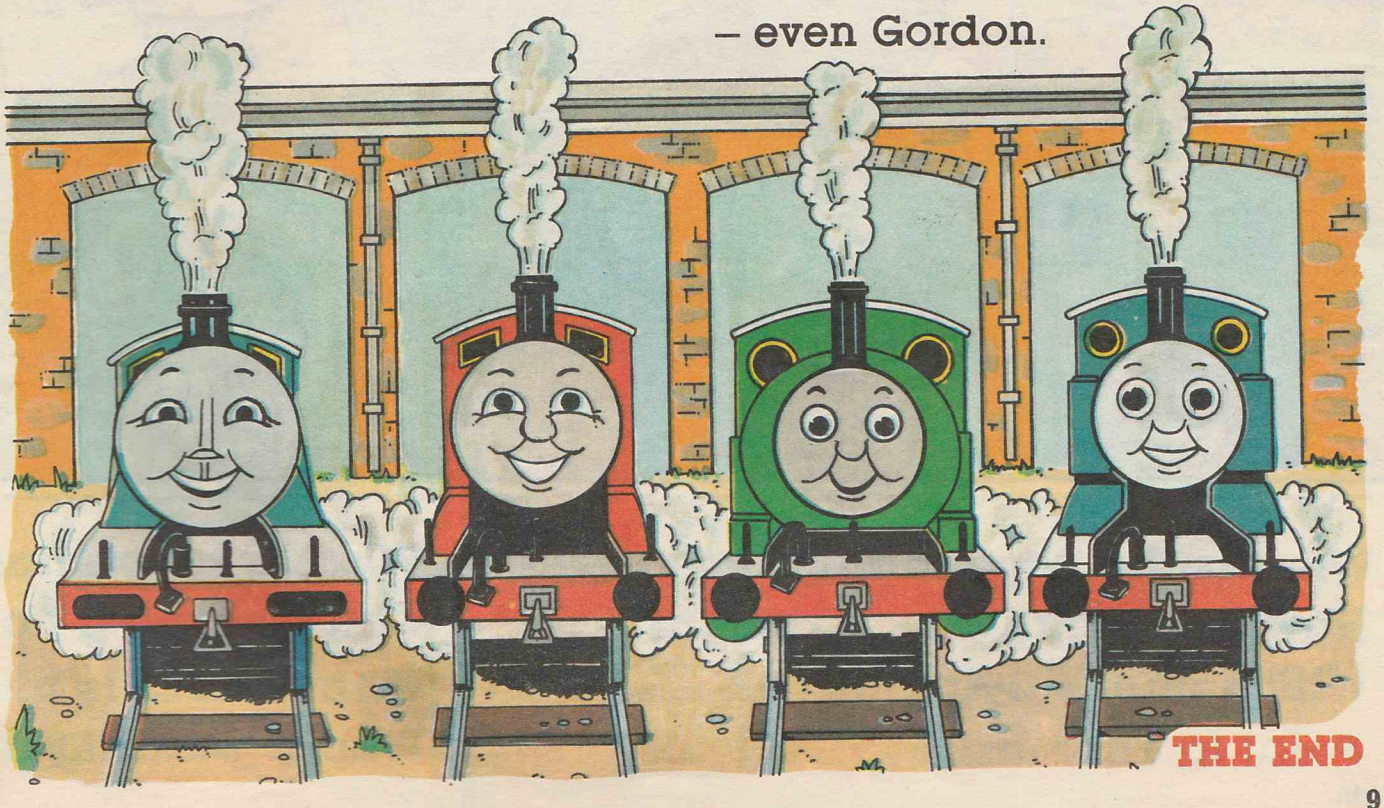
The brass band stood in front of the trains. When the Mayor arrived, the conductor raised his baton, and the band began to play.

Bompity bompity bomp, went the music.

Peep peep, peep peep, went the engines' whistles.

"What a grand idea," said the Mayor, clapping along with the music. "A musical steam engine brass band."

The engines did feel proud – even Gordon.



THE END

Come to the

What is the boy reading?

How many balloons are there?

Which one is flying away?

Point to Thomas!

What is he pulling today?

Can you see a dog?

What colour is his ribbon?

Who is wearing a yellow

e party!

today?

?

ibbon?

ellow crown.

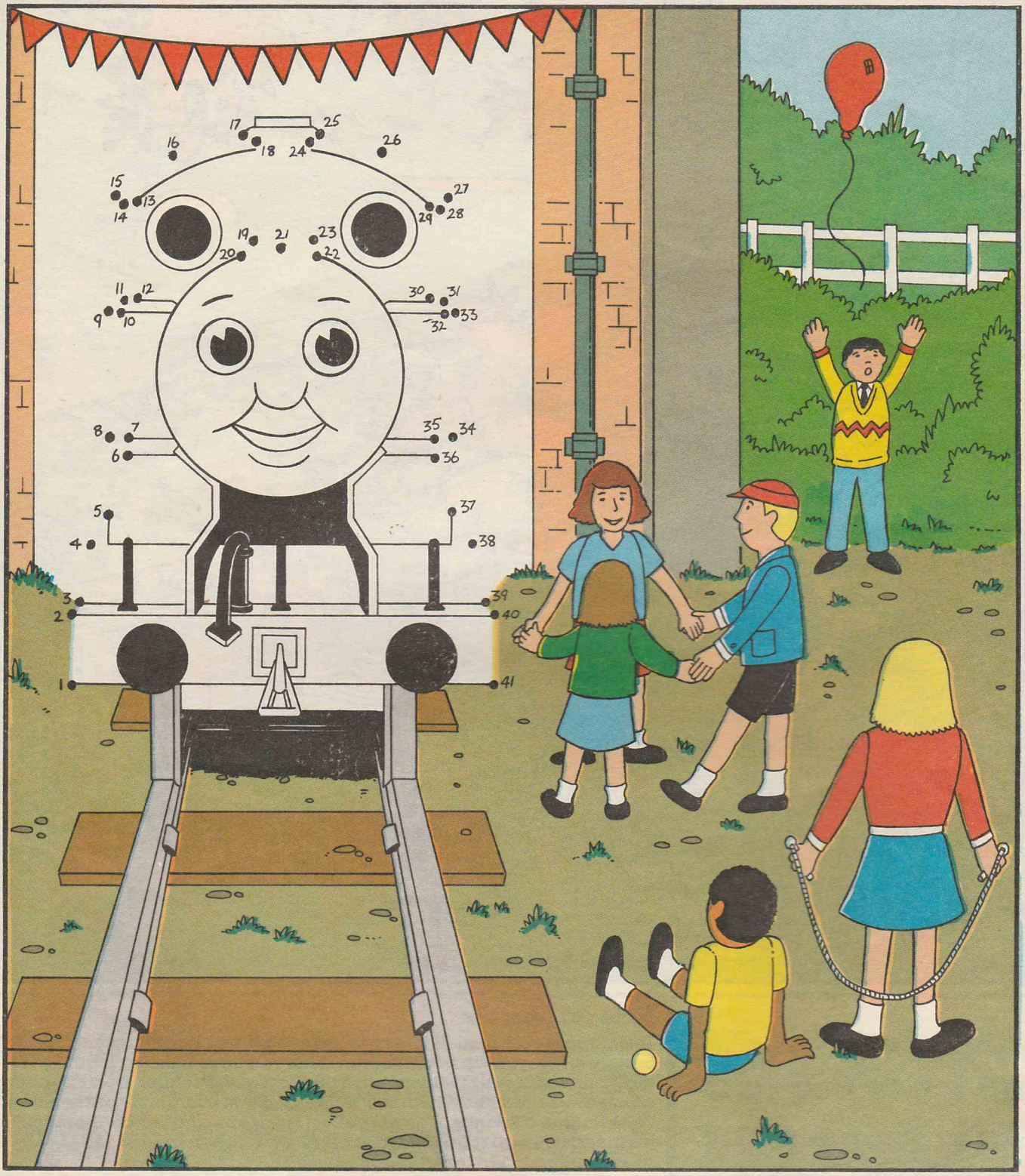
Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room?

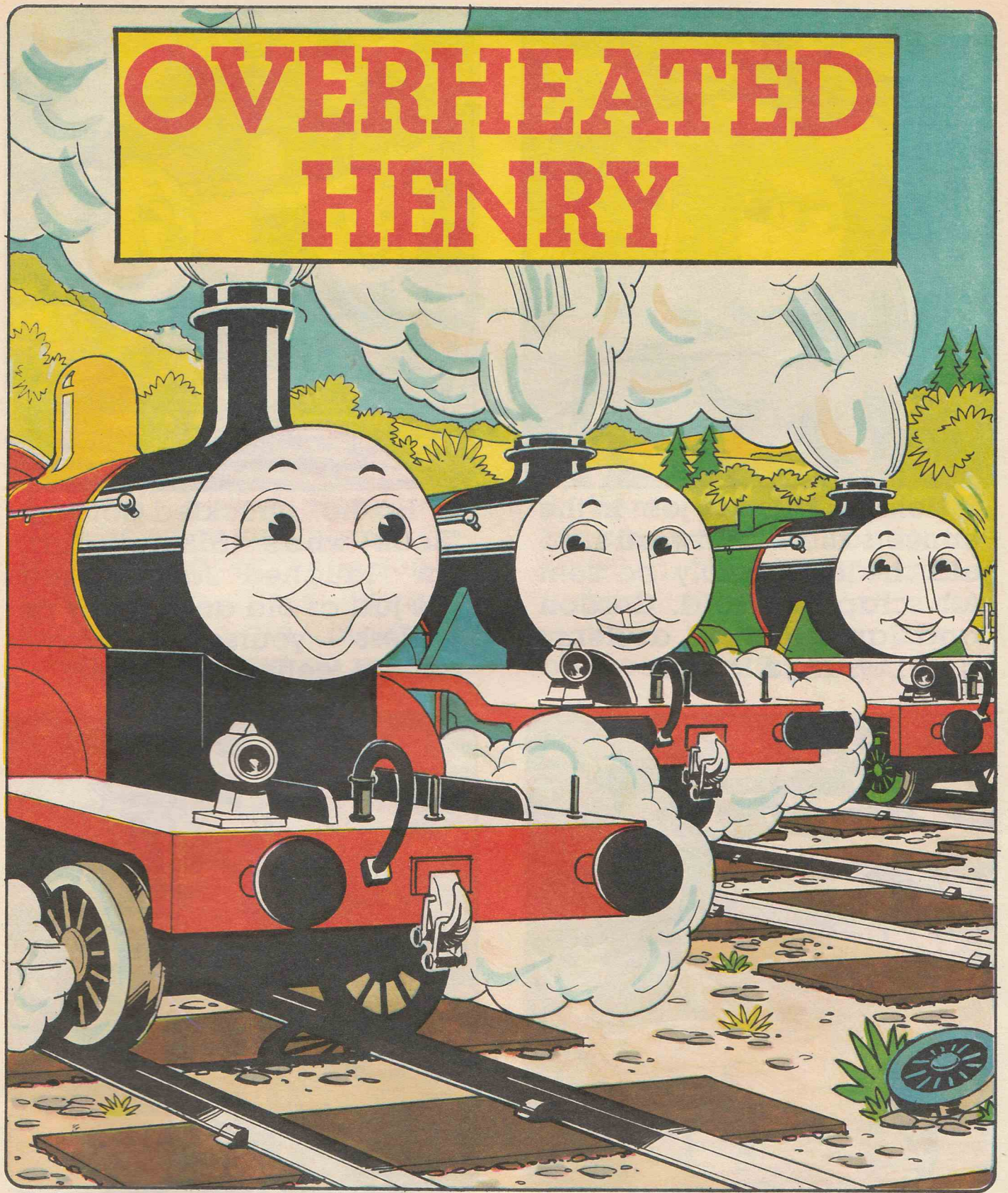
Next: Through the smoke!

JOIN THE DOTS!

Hooray! Hooray! Thomas's magazine is one year old! Join the dots and then finish colouring in the picture!

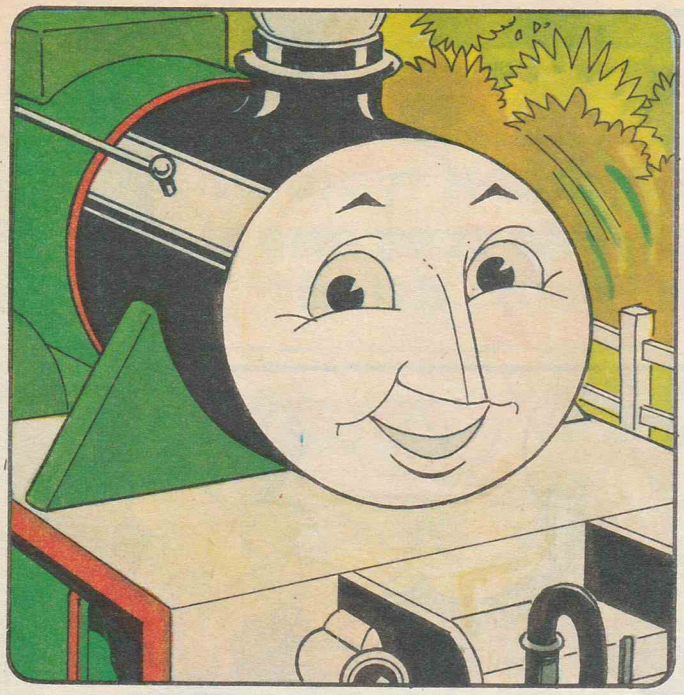


OVERHEATED HENRY

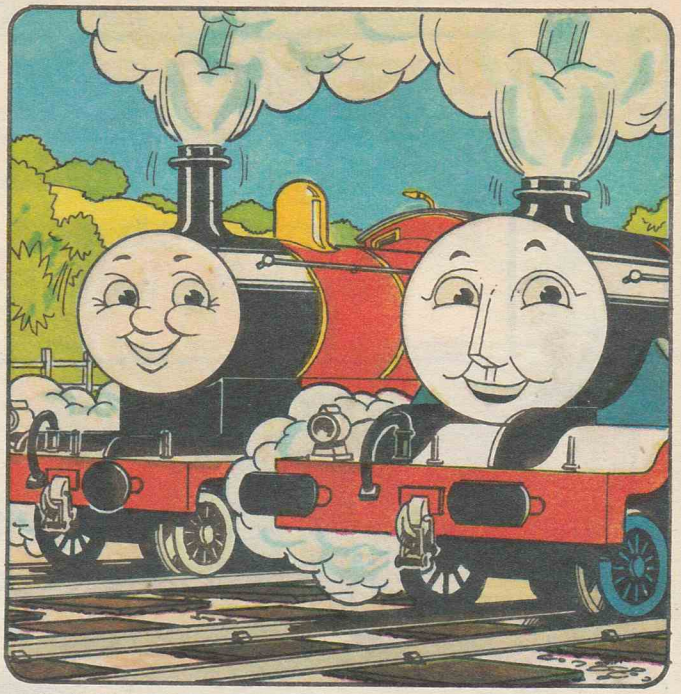


1. One morning in the shed James and Gordon were discussing Edward. Henry was listening to what they said. "Edward's too old to be Really Useful," said James.

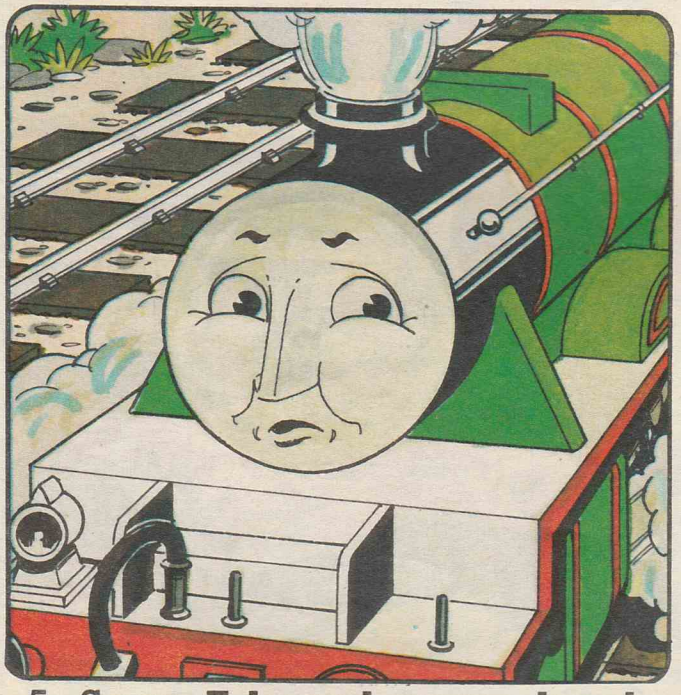
2. "I know," agreed Gordon. "That's why he works on a branch line. Branch lines are not so important." "He can't even do that," said James. "He's at the works."



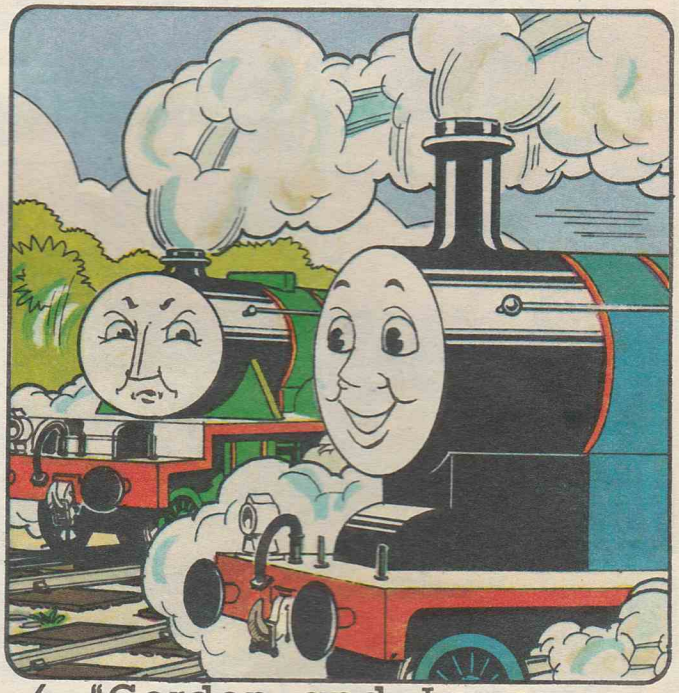
3. Henry wanted to join in the conversation. "Edward's so old, he'll probably be sent for scrap," he said. Gordon and James looked at Henry and began to laugh.



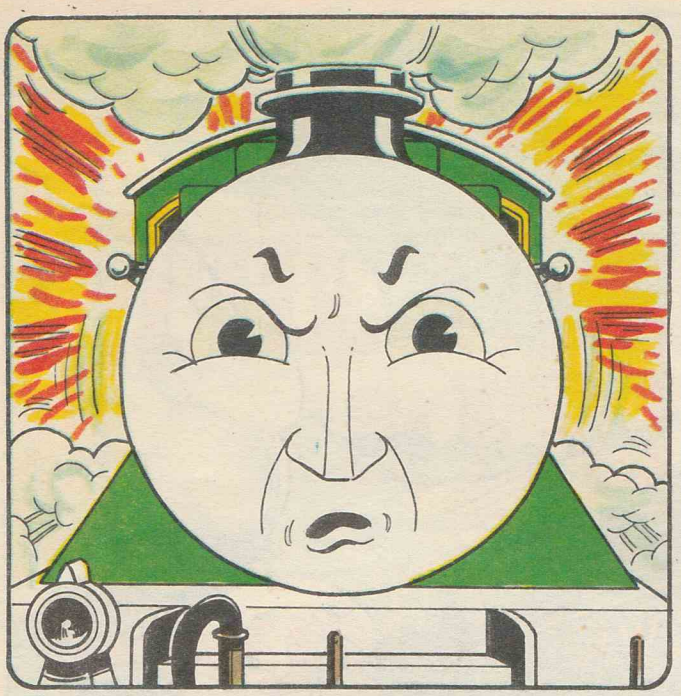
4. "Ho, ho," chuckled Gordon. "Look who's talking!" "Ha, ha!" laughed James. "You are just as old and nearly as useless yourself, Henry!" Henry's feelings were hurt.



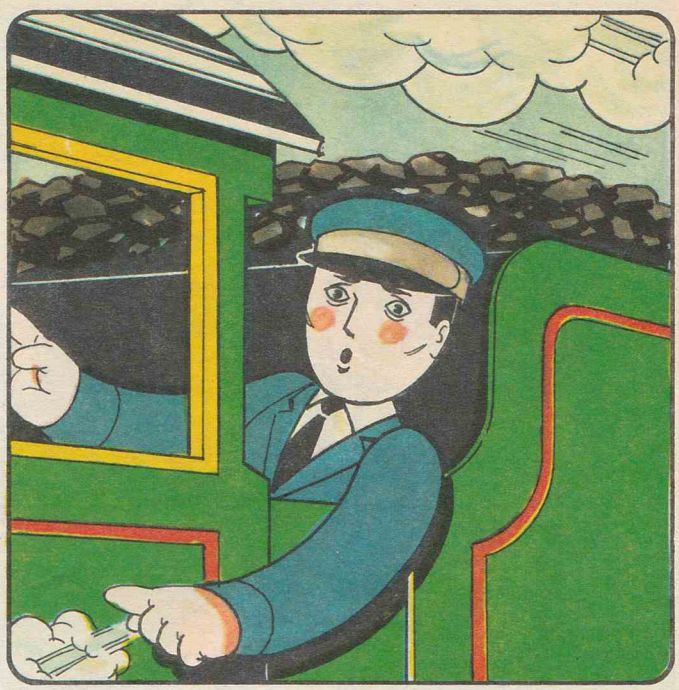
5. Soon Edward came back from the works looking shiny and fit. When Henry saw him he was very grumpy. "Hullo, Henry," said Edward. "What is wrong with you?"



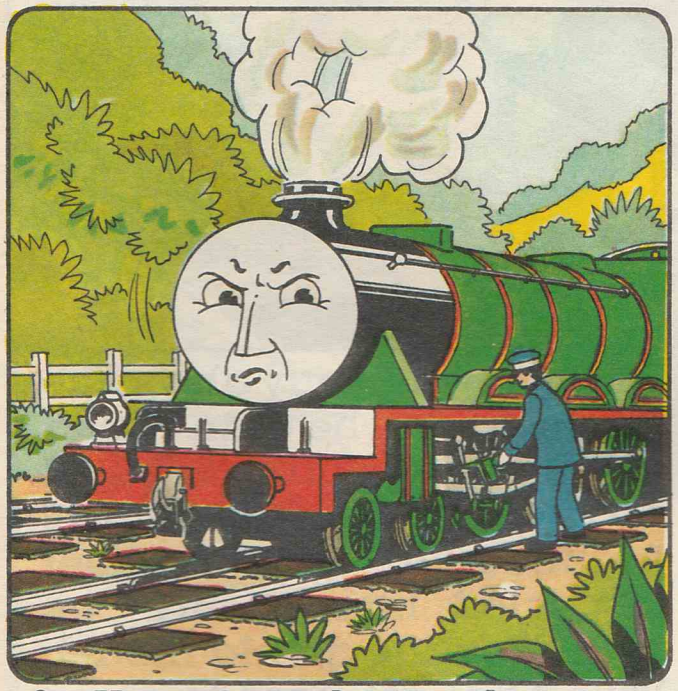
6. "Gordon and James say I'm useless," grumbled Henry. "But I'll show them what I can do!" "Be careful," warned Edward. "Or you'll end up at the works."



7. "Pah!" huffed Henry. "It didn't do **you** any harm." He stormed off to collect his goods train. "Even Edward thinks I'm too old," moaned Henry and he put on speed.

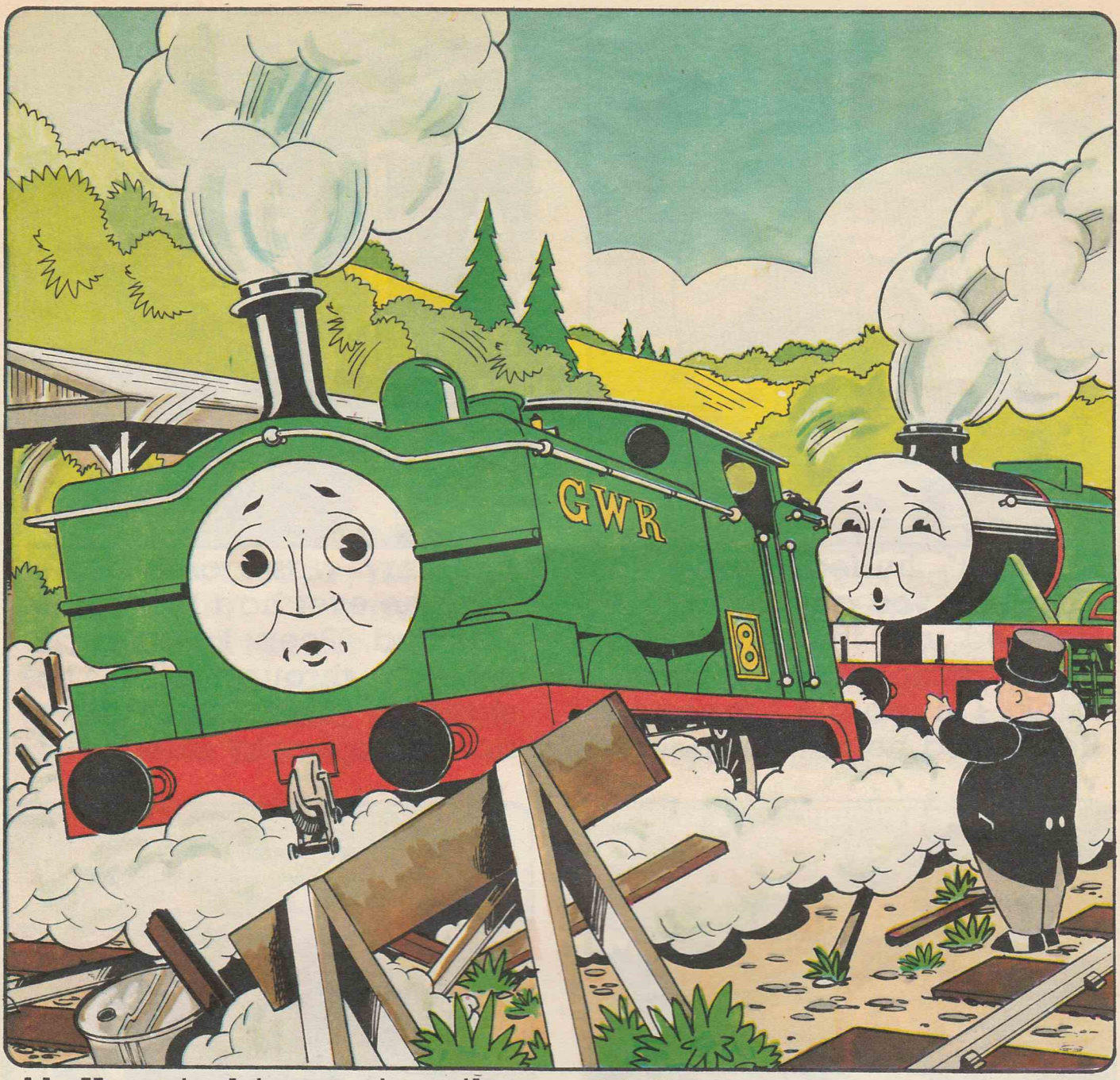


8. Henry was going faster than he ever had before. He whistled, "Peep! Peep!" as he rushed through all the stations. Then his driver noticed a smoky smell.



9. Henry's valve rods were overheating and they had to stop to let them cool down. His driver oiled them and Henry set off once more, but he was still feeling cross.

10. He delivered his trucks and collected more, but Henry had not learned his lesson. He was putting on speed and arrived back in the yard much too quickly.



11. Henry's driver put on the brakes, but it was too late. **Crash!** He ran straight into the back of Duck! The Fat Conroller came rushing out. "Henry!" he said, when he saw what had happened. "I am very disappointed in you. What could you have been thinking of? Now Duck and you must go to the works for a week and I'll be short of engines!"

12. Henry was sorry about the accident, but he didn't mind going to the works. "Soon I'll be fit and shiny like Edward," he thought. The engineer inspected him. "Henry," he said. "You are an old model. Your parts are hard to come by. You might be here for *two* weeks." Poor Henry was surprised. He felt truly sorry now.

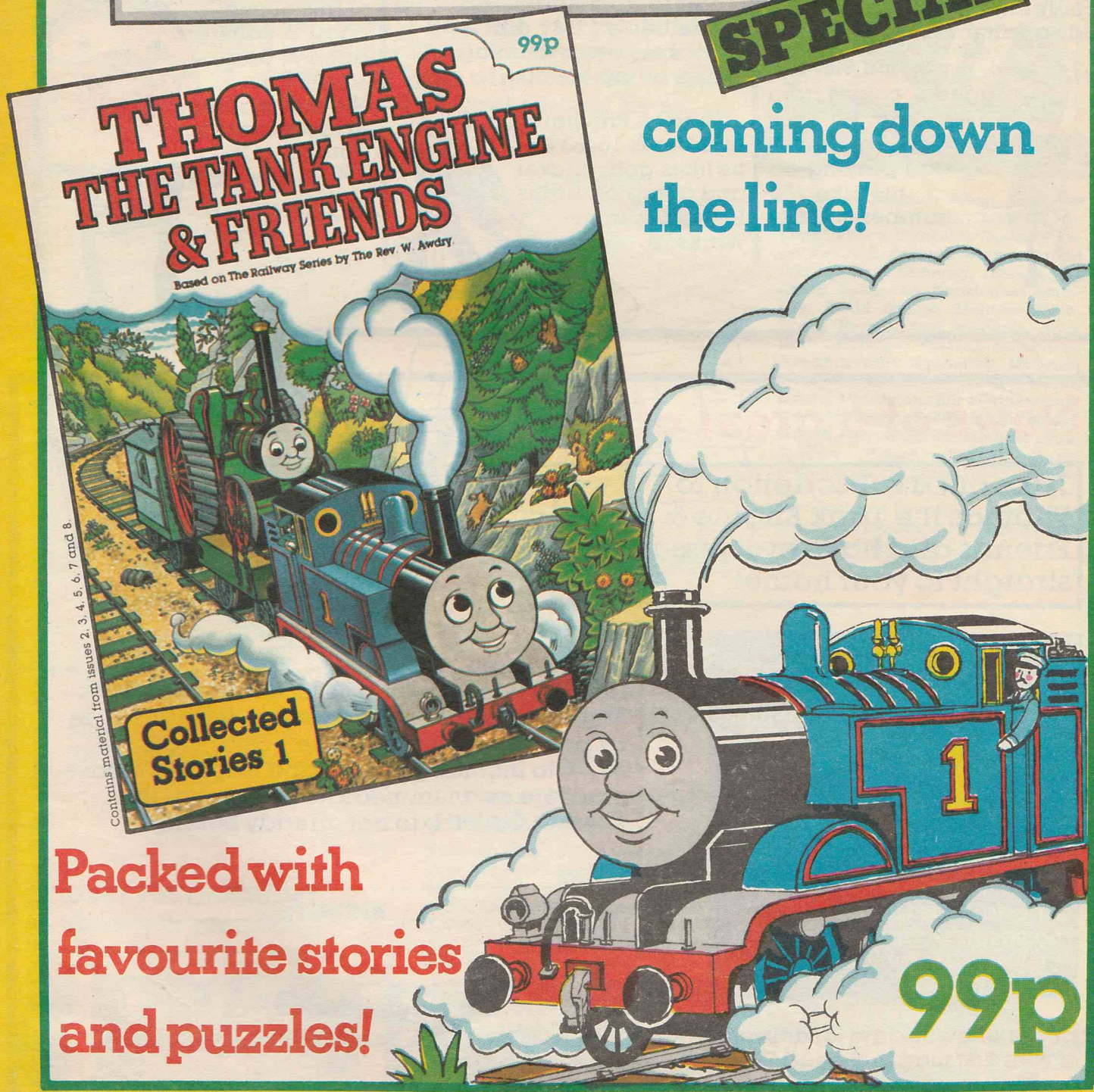
THE END

More fun on the line in our next issue!

It's the...

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

SPECIAL



coming down the line!

Packed with favourite stories and puzzles!

99p

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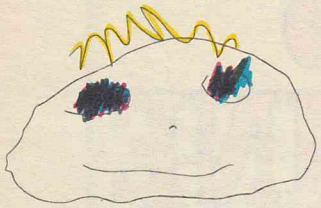
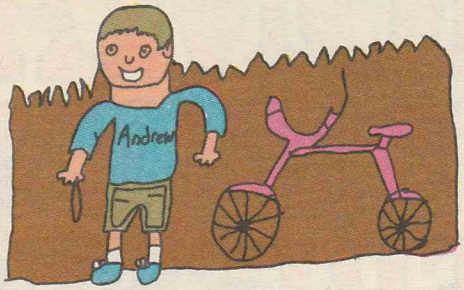
PICTURES OF YOU!

Here are some of the pictures that our Club Members sent in – of *themselves!*



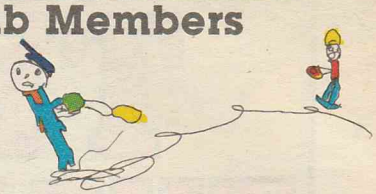
Here is **Stuart**, aged 4, from Paignton in Devon, membership number 20528. Stuart likes helping his mum and dad water the flowers.

Simon Stanley aged 5, comes from Reading. He likes drawing, swimming and playing on his bike. His number is 18512.



Here's **Andrew** with his bike! Andrew is 6½ and comes from Barnet. His number is 17781. His hobbies are swimming and riding his bike.

Thomas Pritchard's number is 16483 and he likes golf, cricket and going on trains. He comes from Worksop.

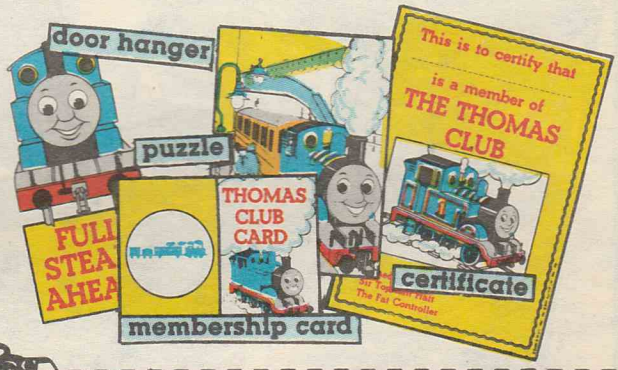


This is **William**, aged 4, playing cricket with his brother! His number is 3806, and his hobbies are cricket, golf, pool and football. Well! Well!

This cheery chap is **Robert**, aged 5, from Dursley in Gloucestershire. His membership number is 15015.

News of a great offer!

Take out a subscription to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends and have every issue sent straight to your home!



What's more, if you do not already belong to the **Thomas Club**, you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting **Club Pack** will be sent to you too! It costs **£9.75** including postage and packing, to be sent **26 issues** of **Thomas the Tank Engine.** Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Thomas subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Please allow 28 days for delivery of your first magazine and Club Pack.

I should like to subscribe to **Thomas the Tank Engine** and understand I will receive 26 issues by post. I enclose a cheque/postal order for **£9.75** to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the **Thomas Club** If I do not already belong!

Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian.....

Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Make your cheque or postal order payable to *Marvel Comics Ltd.*

Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

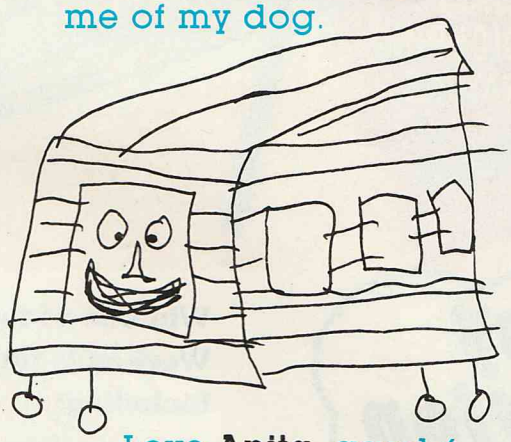
Dear Fat Controller,
For a Christmas concert Mummy covered my clothes in black plastic and made me a top hat. I looked just like you because I'm short and chubby. I told one of your stories on the stage and everyone laughed. I hope you don't mind.
Love from **Ethan**, 7.

Of course I do not mind, Ethan. I'm sure it was all for a good cause.

Ethan wins a set of **Thomas the Tank Engine vinyl stickers**, from *Scorpio Products International Ltd.*

PICTURE OF TOBY!

Dear Fat Controller,
Here is a picture of Toby. I like him because he reminds me of my dog.



Love **Anita**, aged 6.

Does Toby look as fierce as this? But what a splendid drawing, Anita. Thank you very much indeed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best birthday wishes puff their way to:

Michael Brownlie, Adam Pengelly, Peter Hughes, Patricia Harris, Sonia Smith, Christopher Catton, Jamie Buck, brother Nicky, Jennifer Holley, Thomas Maliaroudakis, Ben Mitchell, David Beevers, Christian Child, Bill Ryley, Andrew Leary, Nicholas Edwards, Edward Green and his sister, Luke Hodges, Lisa Sharp, Steven Penny, Francesca Dixon, Natalie Douglas, Graham Walker, Robert Fisher, Robert Canning, John Pegler, Aaron Hammond, Christopher Atkinson, David Quilter, Matthew Elkin, Bryan Newell, Ben Williams, Sally Ann Corbridge, Thomas Humphrey, Samanth and Kimberley McCourt, Steven Lissamore, Nicky Royal, Daniel Middleton, Bill Featherstone, Mark Millward (1480), David Wilson (16548), Bryan Garvin, Michael Little, Gregory Pittard (21765), David Young, Michael Burke (2555), Jimmy Roberts, Joseph Hazell, James Harris, Graham Saunders, Paul McAleavey (8779), Matthew Stanton and Jill McKenzie.

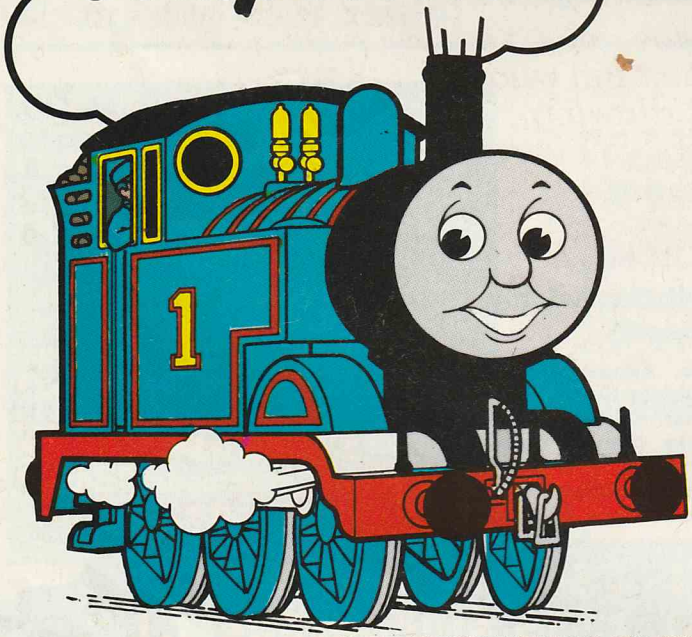
Many happy returns to you all!

If you'd like a birthday mention, just send details on a postcard, at least **8 weeks in advance!** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will do our best.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt
the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: **The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2**

Enter my Competition



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